SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments to the specification:

Page 1, bottom paragraph;

--- The prior art includes Patent No. 4,279,995 dated July 21, 1981, to Woods et..al et al. entitled "Selective Salmonella Carbohydrate and Medium Constructed Therefrom"---.Page 2. top of page, first complete paragraph and top line of next paragraph:

--- which discloses a plating medium with 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose as a selective carbohydrate for Salmonella and a pH indicator dye to respond to carbohydrate metabolism. The media allows the growth of Salmonella spp., Arizona spp. to the exclusion of other ~~Enterobacteriaceae~~ Enterobacteriaceae, but it also permits the growth of Citrobacter freundii.

Patent No. 5,098,832 dated March 24, 1992, and divisional Patent No. 5,194,374 to Rambach entitled "Isolating Medium for Identifying the Salmonella Bacterium" disclose a plating medium with 1,2-propanediol/silica gel that is metabolizable by Salmonella and a pH indicator to react to acidification of the medium. The patents also disclose the addition of a beta-galactosidase chromogenic substrate to increase the specificity of the medium.

Patent No. 5,434,056 dated July 18, 1995, to Monget et al.[[.]] , entitled "Method of - Bacteriological Analysis, and Medium for the Detection of Bacteria of the Salmonella Genus" discloses a plating medium in which the acidic fermentation of sodium glucuronate monitored with a pH indicator, and a beta-D-~~galactopyraniside~~ galactopyranoside chromogenic substrate are used to facilitate selection of Salmonella colonies.

Patent No. 5,786,167 dated July 28, 1998, to Tuompo, et al., entitled "Method and Culture Medium for Identification of Salmonella" discloses a plating medium in which the acidic fermentation of melibiose, mannitol, and sorbitol is monitored with a pH indicator, and a beta-galactosidase responsive chromogenic substrate is used to facilitate selection of Salmonella colonies.

Patent No. 5,871,944 dated February 16, 1999, to Miller et.al., entitled "Salmonella Preferential Media" disclose discloses a plating medium --.

Page 4, first complete paragraph through line 21;

Many of the bacteria that are found in mixed samples can be removed from the differentiation process by inhibitors without adversely effecting growth of Salmonella bacteria, particularly bacteria that are not member of

the ~~Enterobacteriaceae~~ Enterobacteriaceae. Accordingly, a preferred embodiment of plating medium according to the present invention contains inhibitors.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The selection of the carbohydrate, and the substrates determines the selectivity of a plating medium according to the present invention. A plating medium for differentiation of Salmonella bacteria, according to the present invention, can use most carbohydrates that produce metabolic reactions with Salmonella, but preferably the carbohydrate will not react with other bacteria, particularly other members of the family ~~Enterobacteriacese~~ Enterobacteriaceae. 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose, xylose, mannitol, dulcitol, sorbitol, L-rhamnose and D-arabitol have been found to be suitable, and of this group of carbohydrates, 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose is preferred because of its strong positive reaction with Salmonella bacteria, including Salmonella typhi, and very few other bacteria of the ~~Enterobacteriacese~~ Enterobacteriaceae. ---.

Page 7, enter amendment in Table 1, under "supplements", and at the end of the page.

--- TABLE 1

Chemical	Grams/liter
Yeast Extract	3.00
Proteose Peptone	10.00
Lab Lemco Powder	1.00
Sodium Chloride	5.00
L- Phenylalanine	3.50
Ferric Ammonium Citrate	0.50
Bile Salts #3	0.40
Bile Salts	0.20
5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- ~~galactopyraniside~~ galactopyranoside	0.15
3-indoxyl-beta-D- ~~galactopyraniside~~ galactopyranoside	0.15
Isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside	0.10
Neutral red	0.03
Agar	15.97
Deionized Water	950 ml/l.
Supplements	
2-Deoxy-D-Ribose	12.00
Sodium ~~novobiocinocin~~ novobiocin	0.02

Cefsulodin 0.006

When preparing the medium, the ingredients, excepting the supplements, are mixed together in any order and thereafter boiled and cooled to form a basal medium. Thereafter, the supplements are added to the cooled, boiled basal medium just prior to completion of the plating medium.

Table 2 sets forth the results of tests made with a medium according to the preferred embodiment of the invention, as set forth in Table 1 above. The bacterial strains were incubated on the medium of Table 1 for 24 hours at 35 degrees Celsius, and Table 2 reports the results.[[.]] ---

Pages 8, make the following amendments to TABLE 2;

TABLE 2

Bacterial Strains	# of Strains	Colonial Morphology
Salmonella spp. (non S. typhi)	40	• Raised colony; 1.5 - 4.0 mm in diameter-, • Reddish pink color. • Some strains may have a pink precipitate surrounding the colony or a clear to light pink ring around the colony.
Salmonella typhi	1	• Raised colony; 1.0 - 1.5 mm in diameter. • Reddish pink color with no precipitate surrounding the colony • Clear to light pink ring around the colony.
Salmonella tennessee	1	• Raised colony; 2.0 - 3.0 mm in diameter. • Dark blue color with a pink precipitate and no clear ring around the colony.
Escherichia coli 0157:H7	10	• Domed to raised colony; 1.0 - 3.0 mm in Diameter, • Bluish green color with bluish ~~green~~ green precipitate. • no clear ring around the colony.
Escherichia coli	9	e Domed to raised colony; 2.0 - 4.0 mm in Diameter. • Bluish green color with bluish green precipitate. • No clear ring around the colony.
Escherichia coli	4	• ~~Domed~~ Domed to raised colony; 2.0 - 3.0 mm in Diameter. • Dark blue in color with a pink precipitate. • No clear ring around [[thc]] the colony
Escherichia coli	1	• Raised colony; 2.0 mm in diameter.. • Reddish pink color with a pink precipitate. • Thin clear ring around the colony.

Escherichia hermannii	2	• Domcd Domed colony; Pinpoint to 1.0 [[rnm]] mm in Diameter. • Clear to greenish blue with no precipitate and ring around the colony.
Citrobacter diversus	1	• Domed to raised; Pinpoint to 1 mm in Diameter. • Greenish blue color with no precipitate.
Citrobacter freundii	2	• Domed colony; 2.0 - 3.0 mm in diameter • Dark blue to bluish grecn green in color with no Precipitate and ring around [[tlie]] the colony.
Serratia marcesceens marcescens	1	• Domed colony; 2.0 mm in diameter. • Light green in color with no precipitate. • Thick clear ring around [[thc]] the colony.

Page 9, enter the following amendment:

Hafnia alvei	4	• Domed colony; Pinpoint to 1.0 mm in diameter. • Bluish green in color with bluish green precipitate; no ring around the colony
Enterobacter agglomerans Enterobacter cloacae Enterobacter aerogenes Enterobacter sakazakii	4	• Domed colony; 1.0 - 3.0 mm in diameter. • Bluish green in color with no Precipitate. • With or without a clear thin ring around the colony.
Klebslella ozaenae	1	• Domed colony; 1.0 - 2.0 mm in diameter. • Clear to tan in color with no precipitate.
Klebsiella pneumoniae .	2	• Domed colony; 2.0 - 3.0 mm in diameter. • Bluish green in color with bluish precipitate arid no clear ring around the colony.
Morganella morganii	1	• Domed colony; 1.0 - 2.0 mm in diameter. • Clear to cream color with a brownish precipitate in the medium. No clear ring around the colony.
Providencia retigeri Providencia alealifaeiens Providencia stuartii	3	• Domed colony; Pinpoint to 2.0 mm iii diameter. • Clear to tan color with brownish Precipitate in the medium. No clear ring around the colony.
Acineobacter calcouceticus Proteus mirabillis Pseudomonas aeruglnosa aeruginosa Yersenia enterocolitica Pseudomonas pickettii Aeromonas hydrophila	8	• No growth for all strains tested.